Power to Foreign Universities

2146. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that UGC would be amending its statute to power over the foreign universities which have branches in the country;

(b) if so, what prompted the UGC to think in this direction;

(c) whether the UGC has received complaints from student's parents against foreign institutes in India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (d) According to the information provided by UGC, in the recent past, there has been a spurt in the activities of foreign educational institutions operating in India many of which are substandard. The influx of such foreign educational institutions/universities has, therefore, prompted the University Grants Commission (UGC) to make regulations to regulate their entry and operation in India.

At present, UGC Act. 1956, does not empower the UGC to frame such regulations. The proposed regulations, in order to be effective, necessitate certain amendments in the UGC Act. Necessary amendments to the UGC Act are under consideration of Government. However, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has issued regulations for entry and operation of foreign universities/institutions imparting technical education in India.

Objectives of National and State Women's Commissions

2147. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the objectives of the National and State Women's Commissions;

(b) the details of the State Women's Commissions in the country;

(c) whether the NWC is endowed with statutory powers;